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or two may have been borrowed from what occurred at King's *Ferry*, after the surrender of Yorktown? Rochambeau (i. 309) describes, in the following manner, the junction which then and there took place between the French and Americans: "The general [Washington], wishing to give us a proof of his respect for France, and of his gratitude for her services, made us pass between two lines (*haies*) of his troops, who were clothed, equipped, and armed, for the first time since the Revolution began, partly with stuffs and arms from France, and partly from the spoil of the army of Cornwallis, which the French had generously abandoned to the Americans. While this review continued, the American drums beat the French march, and the re-union of the two armies took place under the most evident signs of mutual satisfaction."

The resemblance is certainly not minute; but the elder Fleming may have innocently transferred some circumstances of the second junction to the first.

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#### OCTOBER MEETING.

The Society held its stated meeting this day, Thursday, Oct. 8, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; the President in the chair.

Donations were announced from the Connecticut Historical Society; the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York; the Essex Institute; the Mercantile-Library Association of Brooklyn, N.Y.; the New-England Loyal Publication Society; the Redwood Library, Newport, R.I.; William Appleton, Esq.; Mr. George Arnold; Hon. Stephen Fairbanks; Clement H. Hill, Esq.; Melvin Lord, Esq.; Rufus K. Sewall, Esq.; William Winthrop, Esq.; the publishers of the "Farmer

and Gardener;" the publishers of the "Journal of Education," Canada; and from Messrs. Amory, Robbins (C.), Ticknor, and Webb, of the Society.

The President read a letter from William Winthrop, Esq., United-States consul at Malta, presenting to the Society a large number of valuable books: whereupon it was —

*Voted*, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Winthrop for this renewed evidence of his interest in the Society, and the objects to which it is devoted.

The President presented, on behalf of William Appleton, Esq., an instrument executed by Louis, Duke of Orleans, dated July 2, 1405. The following is a description of the instrument, drawn up by Dr. Appleton, the Assistant Librarian of the Society:—

This instrument appears to be an *amortissement*, executed by Louis, Duke of Orleans, in favor of the community of Celestines, at Sens; and is dated July 2, 1405.

Louis was the youngest son of Charles V., King of France; and was born March 13, 1371. His brother (Charles VI.) created him Duke of Touraine, and Count of Angoulême, Perigord, and Dreux; and he acquired, by purchase, the counties of Blois, Perche, &c. He was barbarously assassinated in the streets of Paris, Nov. 23, 1407, at the instigation of the Duke of Burgundy; and was interred, with great solemnity, in a chapel which he had erected in the Church of the Celestines, in that city. Various and contradictory accounts of the character of this nobleman are given by contemporary and more recent writers; but in a eulogy delivered after his death, which is given at length in Monstrelet's "Chronicles," he is said to have "founded many

masses and private chapels, doing much service to the church." His portrait, taken from the *effigies* upon his tomb, is given in Johnes's translation of Monstrelet.

His son and successor (Charles, Duke of Orleans, born May 26, 1391) was taken prisoner at the battle of Agincourt; and was detained in England for twenty-five years, where he married the widow of King Richard II. Horace Walpole assigns him a place in his "Catalogue of Royal and Noble Authors."

The curious seal appended to the document is four inches in diameter. The obverse presents a spirited figure of the duke on horseback, clad in complete armor, with the helmet closed, a drawn sword in his right hand, and a shield upon his left arm, bearing the *fleurs-de-lis*, and the heraldic mark of difference, the label; the surcoat worn over his armor and the caparisons of the horse being *semée* also with *fleurs-de-lis*. A small portion being broken from the edge of the seal, the legend around the circumference is imperfect. In its present condition, it is as follows: S : ludovici regis fran . . . . cis aurelian : comitis valesie et bellimōtis super isaram.✕ The legend, as restored, will probably read: "S[igillum] Ludovici Regis Fran[corum filii Du]cis Aurelian[ensis] Comitis Valesiæ et Bellimontis super Isaram." The background of the seal is divided into lozenge-shaped compartments, containing, alternately, the figure of an eagle displayed, and of a lion's head.

On the reverse of the seal, in a circle one inch and a half in diameter, is an escutcheon bearing the arms and mark of difference, as in the principal figure; the helmet, with the crest and plume; and two eagles as supporters.

The instrument is engrossed on parchment, in a plain court-hand; and, with the exception of the injury to the seal, is in excellent preservation.



Seal of Louis, Duke of Orleans.  
MCCCV.



The following correspondence relating to the transmission to the Society of the trunk of a white-oak tree, riddled with bullets, from the forest on Wolf Hill, as a memorial of the battle of Gettysburg, was read by the President : —

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, BOSTON, Aug. 22, 1863.

Hon. EMORY WASHBURN.

DEAR SIR, — I beg to enclose to you a letter which I have received from Gettysburg, Penn., the writer of which proposes to send to the Historical Society a memorial of the recent battle. I am informed that you are Chairman of the Committee of the Society, which has charge of such matters ; and therefore I take the liberty to request that you will cause the within to be answered.

I am very truly and obediently yours,

JOHN A. ANDREW.

GETTYSBURG, PENN., Aug. 7, 1863.

Hon. JOHN A. ANDREW, Governor of Massachusetts.

GOVERNOR, — I have selected from the forest upon Wolf Hill, at our breastworks, a trunk of a white-oak tree, fearfully riddled with balls, so as to exhibit the effects of the withering musketry fire in the action of the 2d and 3d of July ult., when the enemy were so terribly repulsed on our right. In that wonderful strife, the Second Massachusetts Regiment bore a conspicuous and honorable part, as the thick graves of its noble dead eloquently attest. This scarred memento I desire to present to the Massachusetts Historical Society ; and have it now at the depot of our railroad, ready for shipment. Will you make the necessary arrangements for its transportation to Boston, and advise me of your readiness to receive it ? For the life of your brave sons, poured out freely upon our soil, Pennsylvania sends this outgrowth of the life of her soil, eloquent of the dauntless strife and the glorious triumph here achieved.

With sentiments of high regard and esteem, yours truly,

D. M'CONAUGHY.

HISTORICAL ROOMS, BOSTON, Aug. 27, 1863.

DEAR SIR, — Your eloquent and acceptable letter addressed to Governor Andrew has by him been forwarded to the Massachusetts

Historical Society ; in whose behalf I have the honor to communicate the wish, that you would add to the sense of obligation already conferred upon them, by transmitting by express, if no other means offers, the memorial of Gettysburg and its historic days which you have been kind enough to offer for their acceptance.

If directed to the Massachusetts Historical Society, Tremont Street, Boston, I have no doubt it will duly reach its destination.

As I cannot speak authoritatively in the name of the Society, there having been no opportunity for them to act upon the matter, I shall not attempt to express, in such terms as I know they would desire, the grateful acknowledgment that is due for your kindness, and the cordial response with which they would reciprocate the generous and patriotic sentiments with which you proffer this memorial of the great battle in this new war of independence. I hope a more formal recognition of these will be forthcoming when this shall have been added to the valued historic memorials which it is the purpose of this Society to collect and preserve.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

EMORY WASHBURN,  
*Chairman of Committee, &c.*

D. M'CONAUGHY, Esq.

GETTYSBURG, PENN., Sept. 3, 1863.

Hon. EMORY WASHBURN,  
Chairman Committee Mass. Hist. Society.

DEAR SIR, — Your very kind and gratifying reply of the 27th ult., in reference to the tree from the Gettysburg battle-ground which I desire to present to the Massachusetts Historical Society, has been received.

Through the kindness of the Pennsylvania Railroad and Northern Central Railroad Companies, I am enabled to transport this tree, together with one for the Pennsylvania Historical Society, over these roads in a gondola car, specially appropriated, so as to avoid injury from transshipment. I have the tree now upon the car, and wrapped with tent-cloth ; and will have it manifested, and sent forward to-morrow to Philadelphia, to the care of John A. M'Allister, and John Jordan, jun., Esqs., Committee of the Library of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, to whom I send the other tree. I have determined on this course, knowing that, when the tree is delivered at Philadelphia, you can quite conveniently arrange with railroad companies to transport it without change of cars. Will you kindly

communicate with Messrs. M<sup>c</sup>Allister and Jordan and myself in reference to the mode and time of its transportation? I shall feel a lively interest in being informed of its safe arrival. I shall advise you, should I learn further particulars, as to the participation of your Second Massachusetts Regiment in the fearful struggle which raged about this tree, when the enemy, flushed with success, was driven with great slaughter over and from our breastworks, and completely routed and overwhelmed by the heroic valor of our men of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana, and the victory was ours.

Hoping soon to learn of the safe arrival of this historic trunk, one of the dead of our battle, which you are pleased to honorably mention as *the* great battle of this new war of independence, and that it may be the turning struggle from which shall date the downfall of this great Rebellion, I remain

Very truly yours,

D. M<sup>c</sup>CONAUGHY.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 9, 1863.

SIR, — The trunk of a shell-bark hickory-tree has been sent to my care, for the Massachusetts Historical Society, by D. M<sup>c</sup>Conaughy, Esq., of Gettysburg; of which I presume he has informed you.

It is in charge of one of our members, who has it under cover until forwarded.

There is a line of steamers plying between our cities, and I would suggest its transport in that way. It may be well to make the arrangement at the office of the steamers in Boston. Whenever directed, I will attend to the delivery of the interesting memorial of *the* great battle of this civil war, on board of the steamer that may then be in port.

The trunk has the scars of upwards of one hundred minie-balls.

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,

JOHN JORDAN, Jun.,  
*of Committee of Hist. Society of Penn.*

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 11, 1863.

EMORY WASHBURN, Esq., for Mass. Hist. Society.

DEAR SIR, — Since I wrote to you in relation to the Gettysburg memorial-tree, which is, I find, an *oak* instead of a "shell-bark hickory," as its appearance indicated, it has occurred to me that a casing should be provided, if possible, for its protection against depredations



of curiosity-hunters, whose name is "legion," whilst being transported.

The agent of our Pennsylvania Railroad was obliged to employ a police-officer at the station to prevent the spoliation of the trunk. It has, I believe, a hundred and ten minie-balls in it. I will be glad to have your instructions. The cost would scarcely exceed five dollars, as I am informed.

Very truly,

JOHN JORDAN, Jun.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 19, 1863.

DEAR SIR, — Your favor of the 12th came duly to hand.

The steamer which sets out for Boston to-day conveys the "tree," properly cased, as I suggested, by one of our associates, who made it a "labor of love," with his own hands.

The Northern Central Railway and the Pennsylvania Railway have made no charges for conveyance from Gettysburg; and Mr. Nicholson, on sending the memorial to the steamer, suggested, that, in view of its unselfish object, none should be made by the agent of this line.

As no bill of lading has been sent to me, I have no doubt the suggestion has been followed.

Both Mr. Nicholson and myself are happy in rendering services of this kind to our sister societies.

I trust you may receive the tree (which is oak, instead of hickory, as I wrote) in the same good order as shipped.

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,

JOHN JORDAN, Jun.,

*Chairman Library Committee Hist. Society of Penn.*

EMORY WASHBURN, Esq.

BOSTON, Sept. 26, 1863.

MY DEAR SIR, — I am happy to inform you that the valued memento of the field of Gettysburg reached its destination in good condition. We owe much to the courtesy of the railroad companies who gratuitously gave it a transit over their roads, to Mr. Jordan and his associates in Philadelphia for their care and trouble in forwarding it, and to the Steamboat Company for a like gratuitous transportation to Boston.

With renewed expressions of obligation to yourself personally on my own part, I have no doubt the Historical Society will, at their

next meeting, add their recognition of the favor you have conferred upon them by your considerate act of kindness.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

EMORY WASHBURN.

D. M'CONAUGHY, Esq., Gettysburg.

BOSTON, Sept. 26, 1863.

DEAR SIR,—I am happy to inform you that the memorial from Gettysburg has safely reached its destination. The agents of the steamer, with the same generosity which characterized the railroad companies in Pennsylvania, made no charge for the transportation. For their courtesies, as well as for your and your associate's kindness and unrequited services in transmitting this interesting token, I feel personally greatly obliged; and have no doubt the Historical Society here, at their next meeting, will adopt some proper expression of a like feeling on their part.

With much respect, I am your obliged and obedient servant,

EMORY WASHBURN,

*of the Committee.*

P. S.—Are we not indebted to Mr. Nicholson or yourself for moneys expended in forwarding the articles transmitted to us? If we are, I beg of you to let us remit the amount. We shall in any event be greatly his and your debtors.

Truly, &c.,

E. W.

JOHN JORDAN, Jun., Esq.

The following resolutions were then unanimously adopted:—

*Resolved*, That the Massachusetts Historical Society appreciate the considerate kindness of D. M'Conaughy, Esq., of Gettysburg, in transmitting to them a memorial of one of the fiercest and most eventful battles of the present civil war. It will remind the visitors to the Society's hall of the part which the sons of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, united with the forces of other loyal States, took in that struggle, in which the honor of our country was so nobly vindicated, and its integrity preserved.

*Resolved*, That this Society recognize the courtesy of those gentlemen of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

who gratuitously forwarded this valuable memorial, availing themselves of the liberality of the managers of the Northern Central Railway and the Pennsylvania Railway, and of the steamship the "Saxon," who generously transported this large and heavy timber, free of charge, from Gettysburg to Boston.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be directed to transmit copies of these resolutions to Mr. M'Conaughy and to Mr. Jordan, respectively.

The President noticed, in the following terms, the death of George Sumner, Esq., a Resident Member:—

The death of Mr. George Sumner was announced in the papers of last evening. He was elected a Resident Member of this Society in November, 1859. He had previously made a very interesting and valuable contribution to our Collections, on the subject of the Pilgrims at Leyden, which will be found in the ninth volume of our third series. He was a gentleman of large attainments and varied accomplishments, who had seen much of other countries, and who took a deep interest in every thing relating to his own country. I remember meeting him in Paris sixteen or seventeen years ago, and being deeply impressed by the relations he had already formed with not a few of the distinguished men of France. My personal associations with him, however, have been too casual and too infrequent to allow of my doing justice to his life and character; and I desire only to open the way for others who knew him better, by submitting, with the sanction of the Standing Committee, the customary resolution:—

*Resolved*, That in the lamented death of George Sumner, Esq., after a brief connection with this Society, we recognize the loss of a Resident Member whose historical and general information authorized the expectation of valuable services to the Society.

Mr. WATERSTON, in seconding the resolution, paid a feeling and eloquent tribute to the memory of Mr. Sumner. He spoke of the services he had rendered to his country while abroad; of his large stores of information; and dwelt particularly upon the patience and fortitude exhibited by him in his last painful and lingering illness, which he bore without a murmur.

The resolution was adopted; and Mr. Waterston was appointed to prepare a Memoir of Mr. Sumner for the Proceedings.

The President presented an early antislavery tract of three pages, folio, printed in Boston, June 12, 1700, entitled "The Selling of Joseph," written by Chief-Justice Samuel Sewall. The tract, of which the following is a copy, is believed to be very rare:—

*The Selling of Joseph*

A MEMORIAL

*Forasmuch as Liberty is in real value next unto Life: None ought to part with it themselves, or deprive others of it, but upon most mature Consideration.*

The Numerousness of Slaves at this day in the Province, and the Uneasiness of them under their Slavery, hath put many upon thinking whether the Foundation of it be firmly and well laid; so as to sustain the Vast Weight that is built upon it. It is most certain that all Men, as they are the Sons of *Adam*, are Coheirs; and have equal Right unto Liberty, and all other outward Comforts of Life. *GOD hath given the Earth* [with all its Commodities] *unto the Sons of Adam, Psal 115. 16. And hath made of One Blood, all Nations of Men, for to dwell on all the face of the Earth, and hath determined the Times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation: That they should seek the Lord. Forasmuch then as we are the Offspring of GOD &c. Act 17. 26, 27, 29.* Now although the Title given by the last ADAM, doth infinitely better Mens Estates, respecting GOD and themselves; and grants them a most beneficial and inviolable Lease

under the Broad Seal of Heaven, who were before only Tenants at Will: Yet through the Indulgence of GOD to our First Parents after the Fall, the outward Estate of all and every of their Children, remains the same, as to one another. So that Originally, and Naturally, there is no such thing as Slavery. *Joseph* was rightfully no more a Slave to his Brethren, than they were to him: and they had no more Authority to *Sell* him, than they had to *Slay* him. And if *they* had nothing to do to *Sell* him; the *Ishmaelites* bargaining with them, and paying down Twenty pieces of Silver, could not make a Title. Neither could *Potiphar* have any better Interest in him than the *Ishmaelites* had. *Gen.* 37. 20, 27, 28. For he that shall in this case plead *Alteration of Property*, seems to have forfeited a great part of his own claim to Humanity. There is no proportion between Twenty Pieces of Silver, and LIBERTY. The Commodity it self is the Claimer. If *Arabian* Gold be imported in any quantities, most are afraid to meddle with it, though they might have it at easy rates; lest if it should have been wrongfully taken from the Owners, it should kindle a fire to the Consumption of their whole Estate. 'Tis pity there should be more Caution used in buying a Horse, or a little lifeless dust; than there is in purchasing Men and Women: Whenas they are the Offspring of GOD, and their Liberty is,

..... *Auro pretiosior Omni.*

And seeing GOD hath said, *He that Stealeth a Man and Selleth him, or if he be found in his hand, he shall surely be put to Death.* *Exod.* 21. 16. This Law being of Everlasting Equity, wherein Man Stealing is ranked amongst the most atrocious of Capital Crimes: What louder Cry can there be made of that Celebrated Warning,

*Caveat Emptor!*

And all things considered, it would conduce more to the Welfare of the Province, to have White Servants for a Term of Years, than to have Slaves for Life. Few can endure to hear of a Negro's being made free; and indeed they can seldom use their freedom well; yet their continual aspiring after their forbidden Liberty, renders them Unwilling Servants. And there is such a disparity in their Conditions, Colour & Hair, that they can never embody with us, and grow up into orderly Families, to the Peopling of the Land: but still remain in our Body Politick as a kind of extravasat Blood. As many Negro men as there are among us, so many empty places there

are in our Train Bands, and the places taken up of Men that might make Husbands for our Daughters. And the Sons and Daughters of *New England* would become more like *Jacob*, and *Rachel*, if this Slavery were thrust quite out of doors. Moreover it is too well known what Temptations Masters are under, to connive at the Fornication of their Slaves; lest they should be obliged to find them Wives, or pay their Fines. It seems to be practically pleaded that they might be Lawless; 'tis thought much of, that the Law should have Satisfaction for their Thefts, and other Immoralities; by which means, *Holiness to the Lord*, is more rarely engraven upon this sort of Servitude. It is likewise most lamentable to think, how in taking Negros out of *Africa*, and Selling of them here, That which GOD ha's joyned together men do boldly rend asunder; Men from their Country, Husbands from their Wives, Parents from their Children. How horrible is the Uncleaness, Mortality, if not Murder, that the Ships are guilty of that bring great Crouds of these miserable Men, and Women. Methinks, when we are bemoaning the barbarous Usage of our Friends and Kinsfolk in *Africa*: it might not be unseasonable to enquire whether we are not culpable in forcing the *Africans* to become Slaves amongst our selves. And it may be a question whether all the Benefit received by *Negro* Slaves, will balance the Accompt of Cash laid out upon them; and for the Redemption of our own enslaved Friends out of *Africa*. Besides all the Persons and Estates that have perished there.

Obj. 1. *These Blackamores are of the Posterity of Cham, and therefore are under the Curse of Slavery.* Gen. 9. 25, 26, 27.

*Answ.* Of all Offices, one would not begg this; viz. Uncall'd for, to be an Executioner of the Vindictive Wrath of God; the extent and duration of which is to us uncertain. If this ever was a Commission; How do we know but that it is long since out of Date? Many have found it to their Cost, that a Prophetical Denunciation of Judgment against a Person or People, would not warrant them to inflict that evil. If it would, *Hazael* might justify himself in all he did against his Master, and the *Israelites*, from 2 *Kings* 8. 10, 12.

But it is possible that by cursory reading, this Text may have been mistaken. For *Canaan* is the Person Cursed three times over, without the mentioning of *Cham*. Good Expositors suppose the Curse entaild on him, and that this Propheisie was accomplished in the Extirpation of the *Canaanites*, and in the Servitude of the *Gibeonites*. *Vide Pareum*. Whereas the Blackmores are not de-

scended of *Canaan*, but of *Cush*. Psal. 68. 31. *Princes shall come out of Egypt [Mizraim] Ethiopia [Cush] shall soon stretch out her hands unto God*. Under which Names, all *Africa* may be comprehended; and their Promised Conversion ought to be prayed for. Jer. 13. 23. *Can the Ethiopian change his skin?* This shows that Black Men are the Posterity of *Cush*: Who time out of mind have been distinguished by their Colour. And for want of the true, *Ovid* assigns a fabulous cause of it.

*Sanguine tum credunt in corpora summa vocato  
Æthiopum populos nigrum traxisse colorem.*

Metamorph. lib. 2.

Obj. 2. *The Nigers are brought out of a Pagan Country, into places where the Gospel is Preached.*

Answ. Evil must not be done, that good may come of it. The extraordinary and comprehensive Benefit accruing to the Church of God, and to *Joseph* personally, did not rectify his brethrens Sale of him.

Obj. 3. *The Africans have Wars one with another: Our Ships bring lawful Captives taken in those Wars.*

Answ. For ought is known, their Wars are much such as were between *Jacob's* Sons and their Brother *Joseph*. If they be between Town and Town; Provincial, or National: Every War is upon one side Unjust. An Unlawful War can't make lawful Captives. And by Receiving, we are in danger to promote, and partake in their Barbarous Cruelties. I am sure, if some Gentlemen should go down to the *Brewsters* to take the Air, and Fish: And a stronger party from *Hull* should Surprise them, and Sell them for Slaves to a Ship outward bound: they would think themselves unjustly dealt with; both by Sellers and Buyers. And yet 'tis to be feared, we have no other kind of Title to our *Nigers*. Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the Law and the Prophets. Matt. 7. 12.

Obj. 4. *Abraham had Servants bought with his Money, and born in his House.*

Answ. Until the Circumstances of *Abraham's* purchase be recorded, no Argument can be drawn from it. In the mean time, Charity obliges us to conclude, that He knew it was lawful and good.

It is Observable that the *Israelites* were strictly forbidden the buy-

ing, or selling one another for Slaves. *Levit.* 25. 39. 46. *Jer.* 34 8. .... 22. And GOD gaged His Blessing in lieu of any loss they might conceit they suffered thereby. *Deut.* 15. 18. And since the partition Wall is broken down, inordinate Self love should likewise be demolished. GOD expects that Christians should be of a more Ingenuous and benign frame of spirit. Christians should carry it to all the World, as the *Israelites* were to carry it one towards another. And for men obstinately to persist in holding their Neighbours and Brethren under the Rigor of perpetual Bondage, seems to be no proper way of gaining Assurance that God ha's given them Spiritual Freedom. Our Blessed Saviour ha's altered the Measures of the ancient Love-Song, and set it to a most Excellent New Tune, which all ought to be ambitious of Learning. *Matt.* 5. 43, 44. *John* 13. 34. These *Ethiopians*, as black as they are; seeing they are the Sons and Daughters of the First *Adam*, the Brethren and Sisters of the Last *ADAM*, and the Offspring of GOD; They ought to be treated with a Respect agreeable.

*Servitus perfecta voluntaria, inter Christianum & Christianum, ex parte servi patientis sæpe est licita, quia est necessaria: sed ex parte domini agentis, & procurando & exercendo, vix potest esse licita: quia non convenit regulæ illi generali: Quæcunque voveritis ut faciant vobis homines, ita & vos facite eis. Matt. 7. 12.*

*Perfecta servitus pænæ, non potest jure locum habere, nisi ex delicto gravi quod ultimum supplicium aliquo modo meretur: quia Libertas ex naturali æstimatione proxime accedit ad vitam ipsam, & eidem a multis præferri solet.*

Ames. Cas. Consc. Lib. 5. Cap. 23. Thes. 2, 3.

BOSTON of the *Massachusetts*;

Printed by *Bartholomew Green*, and *John Allen*, June, 24th. 1700.

The President said that he had found among the Bowdoin Papers the original manuscript of a poem by the celebrated negro slave, Phillis Wheatley, on the capture of General Charles Lee by the British. It had never been printed, so far as he could ascertain. It was certainly not in either of the editions of the printed volumes of her poems. He then read it as follows:—



*The following thoughts on his Excellency Major General Lee being betray'd into the hands of the Enemy by the treachery of a pretended Friend; To the Honourable James Bowdoin Esqr. are most respectfully Inscrib'd, By his most obedient and devoted humble servant,*

PHILLIS WHEATLEY.

The deed perfidious, and the Hero's fate,  
 In tender strains, celestial Muse! relate.  
 The latent foe to friendship makes pretence,  
 The name assumes without the sacred sense!  
 He, with a rapture well dissembl'd, press'd  
 The hero's hand, and, fraudulent, thus address'd,  
 "O friend belov'd! may heaven its aid afford,  
 And spread yon troops beneath thy conquering sword!  
 Grant to America's united prayer  
 A glorious conquest on the field of war!  
 But thou indulgent to my warm request,  
 Vouchsafe thy presence as my honour'd guest:  
 From martial cares a space unbend thy soul  
 In social banquet, and the sprightly bowl."  
 Thus spoke the foe; and warlike LEE reply'd,  
 "Ill fits it me, who such an army guide,  
 To whom his conduct each brave soldier owes,  
 To waste an hour in banquets or repose:  
 This day important, with loud voice demands  
 Our wisest Counsels, and our bravest hands."  
 Thus having said, he heav'd a boding sigh;  
 The hour approach'd that damps Columbia's Joy.  
 Inform'd, conducted by the treach'rous friend,  
 With winged speed the adverse train attend,  
 Ascend the Dome, and seize with frantic air  
 The self surrender'd glorious prize of war!  
 On sixty coursers, swifter than the wind,  
 They fly, and reach the British camp assign'd.  
 Arriv'd, what transport touch'd their leader's breast!  
 Who thus deriding, the brave Chief address'd.  
 "Say, art thou he, beneath whose vengeful hands  
 Our best of heroes grasp'd in death the sands?  
 One fierce regard of thine indignant eye  
 Turn'd Britain pale, and made her armies fly:

*Fac Simile of the Handwriting of Phillis Wheatley.*

*The following thoughts on his Excellency. Major General Lee being  
betrayed into the hands of the Enemy by the treachery of a pretended  
Friend; To the Honourable James Bowdoin Esq<sup>r</sup> are most respectfully  
Inscribed by his most Obedient and devoted humble servant.*

*Phillis Wheatley.*

But Oh ! how chang'd ! a prisoner in our arms  
Till martial honour, dreadful in her charms,  
Shall grace Britannia at her sons' return,  
And widow'd thousands in our triumphs mourn."  
While thus he spoke, the hero of renown  
Survey'd the boaster with a gloomy frown,  
And stern reply'd : " O arrogance of tongue !  
And wild ambition, ever prone to wrong !  
Believ'st thou chief, that armies such as thine  
Can stretch in dust that heaven-defended line ?  
In vain allies may swarm from distant lands,  
And demons aid in formidable bands.  
Great as thou art, thou shun'st the field of fame,  
Disgrace to Britain, and the British name !  
When offer'd combat by the noble foe,  
(Foe to mis-rule,) why did thy sword forego  
The easy conquest of the rebel-land ?  
Perhaps *too* easy for thy martial hand.  
What various causes to the field invite !  
For plunder *you*, and we for freedom fight.  
Her cause divine with generous ardor fires,  
And every bosom glows as she inspires !  
Already, thousands of your troops are fled  
To the drear mansions of the silent dead :  
Columbia too, beholds with streaming eyes  
Her heroes fall — 'tis freedom's sacrifice !  
So wills the Power who with convulsive storms  
Shakes impious realms, and nature's face deforms ;  
Yet those brave troops innum'rous as the sands  
One soul inspires, one General Chief commands.  
Find in your train of boasted heroes, one  
To match the praise of Godlike Washington.  
Thrice happy Chief ! in whom the virtues join,  
And heaven-taught prudence speaks the man divine ! "  
He ceas'd. Amazement struck the warrior-train,  
And doubt of conquest, on the hostile plain.

Mr. FOLSOM read a letter from Mrs. Walsh, widow of the late Robert Walsh, consul at Paris, presenting a photograph of M. Jomard.

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#### NOVEMBER MEETING.

A stated monthly meeting was held this day, Thursday, Nov. 12, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; the President in the chair.

Donations were announced to the library from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; the President and Trustees of Bowdoin College; the New-England Loyal Publication Society; die Oberlausitzischen Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Görlitz; the Royal Academy of Sciences of Lisbon; the publishers of the "Farmer's Almanac;" the publishers of the Canada "Journal de l'Instruction Publique;" John Appleton, M.D.; William Durrant Cooper, Esq.; D. P. Corey, Esq.; Valentine M. Francis, M.D.; Clement H. Hill, Esq.; Benjamin P. Johnson, Esq.; E. B. O'Callaghan, M.D.; Augustus T. Perkins, Esq.; Benjamin S. Shaw, M.D.; Mr. S. H. Smothers; Mr. S. Urbino; and from Messrs. Bartlet, Brooks (W. G.), Deane, Green, Livermore, Loring, Metcalf, Robbins (C.), Walker, Webb, and Winthrop, of the Society.

The President announced the death of Lord Lyndhurst, an Honorary Member of this Society, and the death of Hon. William Sturgis, a Resident Member, in the following terms:—